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Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment

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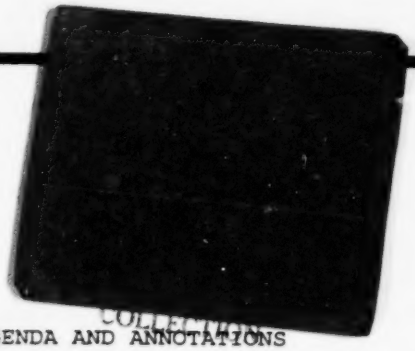
COMMITTEE AGAINST TORTURE
Eighteenth session
Geneva, 28 April - 9 May 1997



PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND ANNOTATIONS

Note by the Secretary-General

1. The eighteenth session of the Committee against Torture will be held at the United Nations Office at Geneva from 28 April to 9 May 1997. The first meeting of the session will be convened on Monday, 28 April 1997, at 10.00 a.m.

2. In accordance with rule 6 of the rules of procedure, the Secretary-General has prepared, in consultation with the Chairman of the Committee, the attached provisional agenda for the eighteenth session. Annotations to the provisional agenda are also attached.

3. Pursuant to rule 31 of the rules of procedure, the meetings of the Committee will be held in public unless the Committee decides otherwise or it appears from the relevant provisions of the Convention that the meetings should be held in private.

4. The attention of the States parties is drawn, in particular, to the annotations to item 4, which contain the tentative timetable for the consideration of reports at the eighteenth session. In accordance with rule 66 of the rules of procedure, representatives of States parties are invited to attend the meetings of the Committee when their reports are examined.

GE. 97-15414 (E)

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Adoption of the agenda.

2. Organizational and other matters.

3. Submission of reports by States parties under article 19 of the Convention.

4. Consideration of reports submitted by States parties under article 19 of the Convention.

5. Consideration of information received under article 20 of the Convention.

6. Consideration of communications under article 22 of the Convention.

7. Future meetings of the Committee.

8. Action by the General Assembly at its fifty-first session:

   (a) Annual report submitted by the Committee under article 24 of the Convention;

   (b) Effective implementation of international instruments on human rights, including reporting obligations under international instruments on human rights.

9. Annual report of the Committee on its activities.

ANNOTATIONS

1. Adoption of the agenda

Under rule 8 of the rules of procedure, the first item on the agenda of any session shall be the adoption of the agenda, except for the election of officers when required under rule 15. In accordance with rule 9, during a session the Committee may revise the agenda and may, as appropriate, defer or delete items; only urgent and important items may be added to the agenda.

2. Organizational and other matters

Under this item, the Committee may wish to consider its programme of work for the session, as well as any other matter concerning the modalities of discharging its functions under the Convention.

3. Submission of reports by States parties under article 19 of the Convention

It may be recalled that in accordance with rule 65 of its rules of procedure and the Committee's decisions, the Secretary-General sends reminders automatically to those States parties whose initial reports are more than 12 months overdue and subsequent reminders every 6 months. In the case of reports which are more than three years overdue, the Chairman of the Committee, at its request, discusses the question of reporting obligations with the representatives of the States parties concerned or addresses a letter on the subject to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, as appropriate. In addition, the Committee includes information on non-compliance by States parties with their reporting obligations in its annual report to the States parties and to the General Assembly.

The situation with regard to overdue reports as at 1 February 1997 is as follows:

State party	Date on which the report was due
Initial reports	
Uganda	25 June 1988
Togo	17 December 1988
Guyana	17 June 1989
Brazil	27 October 1990
Guinea	8 November 1990
Somalia	22 February 1991
Venezuela	27 August 1992
Yugoslavia	9 October 1992
Estonia	19 November 1992
Yemen	4 December 1992
Bosnia and Herzegovina	5 March 1993
Benin	10 April 1993
Latvia	13 May 1993
Seychelles	3 June 1993

Cape Verde	3 July 1993
Cambodia	13 November 1993
Burundi	19 March 1994
Slovakia	27 May 1994
Slovenia	14 August 1994
Antigua and Barbuda	17 August 1994
Costa Rica	10 December 1994
Sri Lanka	1 February 1995
Ethiopia	12 April 1995
Albania	9 June 1995
United States of America	19 November 1995
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	11 December 1995
Chad	9 July 1996
Uzbekistan	27 October 1996
Republic of Moldova	27 December 1996

Second periodic reports

Afghanistan	25 June 1992
Belize	25 June 1992
Bulgaria	25 June 1992
Cameroon	25 June 1992
Philippines	25 June 1992
Uganda	25 June 1992
Austria	27 August 1992
Luxembourg	28 October 1992
Togo	17 December 1992
Guyana	17 June 1993
Turkey	31 August 1993
Tunisia	22 October 1993
Portugal	10 March 1994
Australia	6 September 1994
Brazil	27 October 1994
Guinea	8 November 1994
New Zealand	8 January 1995
Guatemala	3 February 1995
Somalia	22 February 1995
Malta	12 October 1995
Liechtenstein	1 December 1995
Romania	16 January 1996
Nepal	12 June 1996
Venezuela	27 August 1996
Croatia	7 October 1996
Yugoslavia	9 October 1996
Israel	1 November 1996
Estonia	19 November 1996
Yemen	4 December 1996
Jordan	12 December 1996
Monaco	4 January 1997

Third periodic reports

Afghanistan	25 June 1996
Belarus	25 June 1996
Belize	25 June 1996
Bulgaria	25 June 1996
Cameroon	25 June 1996
Canada	23 July 1996
Egypt	25 June 1996
France	25 June 1996
Hungary	25 June 1996
Norway	25 June 1996
Philippines	25 June 1996
Russian Federation	25 June 1996
Senegal	25 June 1996
Uganda	25 June 1996
Uruguay	25 June 1996
Canada	23 July 1996
Austria	27 August 1996
Panama	27 September 1996
Luxembourg	28 October 1996
Togo	17 December 1996
Colombia	6 January 1997

By decision of the Committee, Uganda, Togo, Guyana, Brazil and Guinea were requested to submit both the initial and the second periodic reports in one document.

4. Consideration of reports submitted by States parties under article 19 of the Convention

A tentative timetable for the consideration of reports at the eighteenth session, prepared by the Secretary-General in consultation with the Chairman and subject to approval by the Committee, is given below:

Tuesday, 29 April 1997

Ukraine: third periodic report — CAT/C/34/Add.1

Wednesday, 30 April 1997

Mexico: third periodic report — CAT/C/34/Add.2

Thursday, 1 May 1997

Denmark: third periodic report — CAT/C/34/Add.3

Friday, 2 May 1997

Paraguay: second periodic report — CAT/C/29/Add.1

Monday, 5 May 1997

Israel: special report	CAT/C/33/Add.2

Tuesday, 6 May 1997

Namibia: initial report	CAT/C/28/Add.2

Wednesday, 7 May 1997

Sweden: third periodic report	CAT/C/34/Add.4

5. Consideration of information under article 20 of the Convention

In accordance with the provisions of chapter XVII of its rules of procedure, the Committee will consider under this item information which is, or appears to be, submitted for its consideration under article 20 of the Convention.

In accordance with the provisions of article 20, paragraph 5, of the Convention and rules 72 and 73 of the rules of procedure, all documents and proceedings of the Committee relating to its functions under article 20 of the Convention shall be confidential and all the meetings concerning its proceedings under that article shall be closed.

6. Consideration of communications under article 22 of the Convention

In accordance with the provisions of chapter XIX of its rules of procedure, the Committee will consider under this item communications which are, or appear to be, submitted to it under article 22 of the Convention.

In accordance with article 22, paragraph 6, of the Convention and rule 101, paragraph 1, of the rules of procedure, meetings of the Committee or its subsidiary bodies during which communications under article 22 of the Convention are examined shall be closed.

7. Future meetings of the Committee

In accordance with rule 2 of its rules of procedure, the Committee shall normally hold two regular sessions each year. Regular sessions of the Committee shall be convened at dates decided by the Committee in consultation with the Secretary-General, taking into account the calendar of conferences as approved by the General Assembly.

As the calendar of meetings held within the framework of the United Nations is submitted by the Secretary-General on a biennial basis for the approval of the Committee on Conferences and the General Assembly, the Committee may wish to take decisions under this item on the schedule of its meetings to be held in 1998 and 1999.

8. Action by the General Assembly at its fifty-first session

(a) Annual report submitted by the Committee against Torture under article 24 of the Convention;*/

(b) Effective implementation of international instruments on human rights, including reporting obligations under international instruments on human rights;

Under this item, the Committee will have before it the relevant resolutions and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its fifty-first session and the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-third session.

9. Annual report of the Committee on its activities

In accordance with article 24 of the Convention, the Committee shall submit an annual report on its activities to the States parties and to the General Assembly.

At its second session, the Committee decided to adopt its annual report at the end of its spring session, for appropriate transmission to the General Assembly during the same calendar year. Accordingly, the annual report to be submitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session will include the activities of the Committee at its seventeenth and eighteenth sessions.

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*/ Official Records of the General Assembly, fifty-first session, Supplement No. 44 (A/51/44).